

SAFETY ALERT



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFZX-SA

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
6661 WARRIOR TRAIL, BUILDING 350
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339



APR 13 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Motorcycle Accident - Safety Alert 07-05

1. A Soldier riding a new motorcycle wrecked on Texas Avenue on Fort Polk and was severely injured. He was following a buddy who supplied riding instruction. The Soldier involved in the accident had little or no prior riding experience.

2. **What were the mistakes?**

- a. Failure to follow DODI 6055.4 Instruction requirement for training prior to riding a motorcycle.
- b. Failure to inform his chain of command prior to purchase and subsequent riding of his new motorcycle.
- c. The motorcyclist had not completed a Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) course and did not have a motorcycle endorsement on his license.


3. **Lessons Learned:**

- a. Ensure all Soldiers and civilians follow DODI 6055.4 Instruction before riding a motorcycle.
- b. Refer to your unit's motorcycle mentor for advice prior to purchase of a new motorcycle.
- c. Keep your chain of command informed as to the purchase of a new motorcycle.

4. Required PPE while riding a motorcycle are: long pants/shirt, DOT approved helmet, full finger gloves, retro-reflective devices equivalent to the area of a PT belt. During the hours of darkness and when the military uniform is worn, goggles/face shield, and sturdy over the ankle boots or shoes are also worn.

5. In accordance with the FORSCOM Commander's Memorandum, subject: POV/Motorcycle Safety, 16 March 2007 and the Commander, JRTC and Fort Polk Memorandum to Commanders, subject: POV/Motorcycle Safety Requirements, 21 March 2007; leaders will conduct a face-to-face interview with riders and potential riders NLT 31 March 2007.

ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION, BRIEF ALL SOLDIERS, AND POST ON ALL BULLETIN BOARDS


DANIEL P. BOLGER
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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